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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-ninth session
Agenda item 33
QUESTION OF EQUITABLE
REPRESENTATION ON AND
INCREASE IN THE MEMBERSHIP
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
AND RELATED MATTERS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 10 November 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward to you the Statement dated 8 November 1994 issued by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 33, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) PAK Gil Yon
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Statement dated 8 November 1994 by the spokesman of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs

At the current session of the General Assembly, the Japanese Government was engaged in persistent lobbying typified by "money-backed diplomacy" and "imperial family diplomacy" with the aim of becoming a permanent member of the Security Council next year. Its attempt, however, has virtually miscarried, failing to win support from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and other Asian countries.

Far from drawing a lesson from this disgraceful failure, the Japanese Government reportedly plans to launch another offensive to "drum up support" for a permanent seat on the Security Council at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperative Council meeting and unofficial summit to be held in Indonesia in a few days.

The Asian countries, which suffered from the aggression of Japan and feel the danger of the revival of Japanese militarism in every fibre of their being, will never be taken in by any trick of Japan.

Money is not almighty nor is it a means of determining the political position of a country.

The Japanese authorities leave no stone unturned in their bid to obtain the position of political power and military power commensurate with economic power. But Japan, unlike such countries as Germany, is the only country that has not atoned for the crimes it committed in its war of aggression and military occupation before and during World War II.

At United Nations-sponsored human rights meetings today, Japan finds itself in the dock over the problem of compensation to the victims of grave wartime violations of human rights by Japanese imperialism, including "comfort women for the army" and draftees and the problem of punishment of war criminals. Voices are ringing out uninterruptedly, holding that Japan can never be a permanent member of the Security Council unless these problems are solved.

Japan must know that, without liquidating the past properly, it is not entitled to be a permanent member. Sincere repentance for past crimes and atonement for them will be the first step to win confidence from the Korean and other Asian peoples as well as the people of the world.